Antabuse
"Alcohol"

A/B, I, 64, 25

[redacted]

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Medical Staff

SUBJECT: Alcohol Antagonists

1. Information would be appreciated regarding the availability and the effectiveness of alcohol antagonists that might be prepared in liquid, pill or capsule form for [redacted] use.

2. Recently, when interest in this subject developed, a non-professional survey of the problem, which is attached, revealed four possible approaches to the subject which apparently have not been exhaustively studied.

a. Use of alcohol antagonists before drinking.

(1) Benzedrine.
(2) Ferritin.

b. Absorption of alcohol in the digestive tract.

(1) Charcoal
(2) Aluminum gel preparations.

c. Heavy eating of starches and sugars before and while drinking.

d. Accelerated alcohol oxidation (elimination).

(1) Enzyme adjuvants, such as nicotinic acid.

3. Your opinions and suggestions on this subject would be appreciated at your earliest convenience.

A [redacted]
Assistant Director

G [redacted]

Attachment: 1
"Intoxication, Alcohol Absorption and Antagonists"

A Orig. in TG/[redacted]
26 June 1952

P.4404

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Medical Division

ATTENTION:

SUBJECT: Alcohol Antagonists

1. Your memorandum dated 19 August 1952 concerning alcohol antagonists has been reviewed with considerable interest. From this review it appears that there is no simple substance or compound available at the present time which is adequate to serve the operational needs of our personnel.

2. The corollary problem which has occurred to this office, as a result of reviewing your memorandum, involves the desirability of having available some substance which could be inserted into a drink to accelerate the effect of alcohol. It would be of considerable operational value to [redacted] if we had available a substance which could effectively inhibit the effects of alcohol as well as another substance which could be inserted in a drink to accelerate the effects of alcohol. The utility of such substances is believed to be sufficient to justify embarking on at least some medical research to determine the feasibility of developing such substances.

ACTION

3. It is requested that the Medical Division discuss this matter with OTS and determine which component should undertake such research and development program and advise this office. Upon receipt of such advice a more detailed requirement will be levied upon the appropriate component if necessary or advisable.

[redacted]

cc: OTS, Attn: [redacted]
TGS

[redacted] w/ basic memo